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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/653,512	09/02/2003	Hajime Tsuchitani	JP920030118US1	3887

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EXAMINER
HARPER, LEON JONATHAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2166	

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/653,512	TSUCHITANI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Leon J. Harper	2166	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>12 September 2006</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle,* 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213:

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-12 and 14-19* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-12 and 14-19* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/2/2003</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   The amendment filed 9/12/2006 has been entered. Claim 13 has been

cancelled. No claims have been added. Claims 1,5-10,14 and 17 have been amended.

Accordingly claims 1-12 and 14-19 are pending in this office action.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-12 and 14-19 have been

considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5-9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but

would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the

base claim and any intervening claims and assuming any 112 issues are properly

corrected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-12, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being

indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-12 contain the limitation

extending/compressing, which is indefinite because / can be interrelated as either one

of <u>and</u> or an <u>or</u>. Examiner will assume for the purposes of examination that / means or.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham* v. *John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148

USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining

obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1.   Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2.   Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3.   Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4.   Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1-4, 10-12 and 14-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over US 7099885 (hereinafter Hell) in view of US 6076088 (hereinafter

Paik)

As for claim 1 Hell discloses: ontology extracting means for, based on a service

selection command from a browser (See figure 15 c), extracting an ontology said

ontology displaying relationships among metadata and predicate relationships as

concepts and properties vocabularies and parent- child relationships said ontology

corresponding to a selected service (See figure 15 E and see column 14 lines 35-42);

storing means for analyzing the ontology extracted by said ontology extracting means

and storing into a memory a conceptual structure and details of properties

corresponding to respective concepts including the relationships among metadata and

predicate relationships as concepts and properties and parent-child relationships (See

column 2 lines 53-59 and column 6 lines 28-34); concept window display means for

calling said conceptual structure including the relationships among metadata and

predicate relationships as concepts and properties. and parent-child relationships stored

in said storing means and displaying it in a display area of said browser; inference

engine means for extending/ compressing vocabularies relative to the concepts

selected from said concepts (See column 6 lines 43-49); While Hell does not differ

substantially from the claimed invention the disclosure of property window display

means for calling from said storing means details of a property corresponding to a

concept selected from said conceptual structure displayed by said concept window

display means and displaying them in a display area of said browser is not necessarily

explicit. Paik however does explicitly disclose property window display means for calling

from said storing means details of a property corresponding to a concept selected from

said conceptual structure displayed by said concept window display means and

displaying them in a display area of said browser (See figure 7 "Word Senses"). It

would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the pertinent art to have

incorporated the teaching of Paik into the system of Hell. The modification would have

been obvious because displaying details of a property is one way to navigate an

ontology on a different level (See Hell column 6 lines 50-55)

As for claim 2, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further Hell discloses:

wherein the conceptual structure stored in said storing means is a conceptual tree

structure taking a parent-child relationship into account (See column 14 lines 21-29).

As for claim 3, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further Hell discloses:

relationship input window display means for displaying in a display area of said browser

a relationship input window for design relationships between two or more concepts

selected from said conceptual structure displayed by said concept window display

means, or relationships between two or more properties selected from properties

displayed by said property window display means (See column 8 lines 3-7),.

As for claim 4 the rejection of claim 3 is incorporated, and further Paik discloses:

input confirmation window display means for displaying in a display area of said browser

an input confirmation window for confirming information inputted using said concept

(See figure 7 note" figure 7 is a review of the request and the x's allow for confirmation).

As for claim 10 Hell discloses: receiving a selection command of a service from a

browser; extracting an ontology corresponding to said service for which the selection

command is received- said ontology comprising relationships among metadata and

predicate relationships as concepts and properties (See figure 15 E and see column 14

lines 35-42); vocabularies and parent- child relationships; analyzing said extracted

ontology including the relationships among metadata predicate relationships as

concepts and properties and parent-child relationships and storing into a memory

details of the concepts and details of the properties corresponding to respective

concepts(See column 2 lines 53-59 and column 6 lines 28-34);, extending compressing

vocabularies using an inference engine relative to the concepts selected from said

conceptual structure calling said conceptual structure stored in said memory and

displaying it in a display area of said browser (See column 4 line 63 – column 5 line 20);

calling from said memory details of properties corresponding to concepts selected from

said displayed conceptual structure and displaying them in a display area of said

browser (See figure 15e); While Hell does not differ substantially from the claimed

invention the disclosure of displaying in a display area of said browser relational

information defining relationships between said selected concepts and/or relationships

between said properties is not necessarily explicit. Paik however does disclose

displaying in a display area of said browser relational information defining relationships

between said selected concepts and/or relationships between said properties (See

figure 7 note the divisions). It would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in

the pertinent art to have incorporated the teaching of Paik into the system of Hell. The

modification would have been obvious because displaying details of a property is one

way to navigate an ontology on a different level (See Hell column 6 lines 50-55)

As for claim 11 the rejection of claim 10 is incorporated, and further Paik

discloses: receiving an input from said browser relative to said conceptual structure,

said details of the properties and said relational information displayed in said display

areas (See figure 7 "user is selecting details); and transmitting a search request based

on said received input (See column 22 lines 19-24).

As for claim 12 the rejection of claim 11 is incorporated, and further Paik

discloses: wherein the step of transmitting said search request transmits said search

request to a search system on the Semantic Web (See column 22 lines 49-58).

As for claim 14 Hell discloses: displaying on said browser a conceptual structure

based on analysis of an ontology performed relative to service selection from said

browser, said ontology displaying relationships among metadata and predicate

relationships as concepts and properties, vocabularies and parent-child relationships;

(See column 2 lines 53-59 and column 6 lines 28-34); While Hell does not differ

substantially from the claimed invention the disclosure displaying on said browser

details of a property relative to a concept selected from said conceptual structure

displayed on said browser; and displaying, when a plurality of concepts are selected,

relationships between select concepts on said browser is not necessarily explicit. Paik

however does explicitly disclose displaying on said browser details of a property relative

to a concept selected from said conceptual structure displayed on said browser; and

displaying, when a plurality of concepts are selected, relationships between select

concepts on said browser (See figure 7 "Word Senses"). It would have been obvious to

an artisan of ordinary skill in the pertinent art to have incorporated the teaching of Paik

into the system of Hell. The modification would have been obvious because displaying

details of a property is one way to navigate an ontology on a different level (See Hell

column 6 lines 50-55)

As for claim 15, the rejection of claim 14 is incorporated, and further Hell

discloses: further comprising the step of displaying, when a plurality of properties are

inputted from said details of the property displayed on said browser, a window defining

relationships between said properties on said browser (See column 4 line 63 – column 5

line 20).

As for claim 16 the rejection of claim 14 is incorporated, and further Paik

discloses: comprising the step of displaying on said browser an input confirmation

window for confirming information inputted using respective display windows displayed

on said browser (See figure 7 note" figure 7 is a review of the request and the x's allow

for confirmation).

Claims 17-19 are program product claims containing substantially the same

limitations as method claims 10 and 11, and are thus rejected for the same reasons set
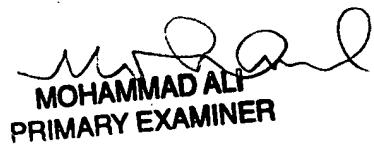
forth in the rejection of claims 10 and 11.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

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Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LJH
Leon J. Harper
November 27, 2006

MOHAMMAD ALI
PRIMARY EXAMINER